

Wisconsin's Child Welfare Practice Model

“How we can effectively deliver services together to Wisconsin children, youth and families”



Practice Model

- **A clear, concise description of what we do in child welfare practice, why and how**

Key Criteria We Applied

- **Clear, concise and accessible to many audiences**
- **Substantive content to enable improvements**
- **Balanced between “Strengths-Based” and “Reality-Based”**
- **Emphasizes treating others respectfully**
- **Sufficiently general and strategic**

What is a Practice Model?

- **Defines how the Wisconsin public child welfare system engages children, youth, families and the community in developing and delivering needed services that meet the unique needs of those serviced by our child welfare public and private agencies.**
- **The practice model defines the outcomes, values and principles, strategies and skills necessary to ensure child safety, permanence and well-being.**
- **Our practice model was developed in partnership with local agencies, private partners and educational partners to provide a common and consistent platform to guide our mutual efforts, ensuring all children, youth and families receive effective and responsive interventions, no matter where they live in Wisconsin.**
- **The Wisconsin Practice Model is a framework for child welfare practice, developed based on current practice, policy, and standards.**

“Together we can do Better for Wisconsin Families”

Strengths and Challenges of Our System

Strengths:

- **Transparent state-local relationships**
- **Focus on safety**
- **Quality Service Review practice/program**
- **Comprehensive assessment (from engagement through closure)**
- **Pre-service and standardized foundation training**

Challenges:

- **Inconsistency from agency to agency within our state**
- **Developing the ability of supervisors, managers and leaders**
- **Resources: declining and inconsistent by county**
- **Managing to data**

How can the Practice Model be Utilized?

- **The practice model is intended to provide guidance to those in the public child welfare system.**
- **The practice model can be used as a communication vehicle to staff, executives, legal system, board members and the public.**
- **The practice model will help drive improvement efforts and focus at the local level by defining where we are and where we want to be.**
- **It will help promote consistency in practice by providing a common framework and goals that we all work towards achieving.**
- **Establishes parameters for good practice that deliver desired outcomes.**
- **It will help us align our training system, policies, Quality Service Review and day to day practice too a common set of values/principles.**

“The Practice Model is not policy but provides guidance.”

Wisconsin's Practice Model Framework

